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NEW MEXICO BUSINESS

CURRENT ECONOMIC REPORT

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The Feminization of New Mexico Households

In the United States, the common belief that the family is comprised of two parents and their children no longer holds true. In fact, there is a shift away from this traditional structure, and New Mexico—which has been regarded historically as one of the most conventional family states due to its predominantly Christian populations—is now experiencing similar trends.

The Current Population Survey conducted in March 1988 by the Census Bureau showed that the share of married-couple households in the U. S. is now under 57 percent, down 5.5 percent from 1980. The share of single-parent families increased slightly, but overall, families now account for barely seven in ten U. S. households.

New Mexico has experienced a similar downward trend in the traditional household arrangement. The share of married-couple households in New Mexico has declined by about two percent from 1980 to the present. Married-couple households still predominate, however, with a 66 percent share of all households in the State. Hispanics (72 percent) are more couple-oriented than White Non-Hispanics (62 percent), and Other Races (55 percent), largely comprised of American Indians and a smaller proportion of African-Americans, are less couple-oriented than either White Non-Hispanics or Hispanics. Male-headed households are more likely to be couple-oriented than are female-headed households.

The decline of the couple-oriented household is reflected in the increased proportion of households which are headed by a woman. In 1980, 76 percent of all New Mexico households was headed by a man. By 1988, the proportion of male-headed households has declined by five percent while the proportion of female-headed households has increased by about 17 percent; 28 percent of all New Mexico households are headed by a woman. Other Races (45.3 percent) are more likely to have a female head of household than either the White Non-Hispanics (28.5 percent) or Hispanics (31.2 percent). One wonders whether or not this reflects a long-term trend away from married-couple families in the Other Races population.

Female-headed households have been shown to be at a socio-economic disadvantage. Female-headed households are more likely to have lower income than male-headed households. In the nation as a whole, less than 10 percent of male-headed households are below poverty level compared to 28 percent of female-headed households. In New Mexico, the proportion of households below poverty level is higher than that of the U. S. as a whole. Nevertheless, the pattern is the same. There are twice as many female-headed households as there are male-headed households which are below poverty level. One in three female-headed households is below poverty level as compared to one in seven male-headed households.

In addition, male heads of households have the advantage of having two potential wage earners in the family. Female heads of households are more likely to be unmarried and have small children living with them. The presence of small children tend to limit the participation of women in the work force. Young children also require greater expenses such as medical, childcare, and clothing than their older siblings.

As a consequence, female-headed households are more likely than male-headed households to receive government assistance in the form of rent subsidy and food stamps. Fully three percent of all New Mexico households receive rent subsidy. Of these, 75 percent are households headed by a woman. Female headed households are three times more likely than male-headed households to receive food stamps.

The economic disadvantage of households headed by a woman is further reflected in the higher than average proportion of renters among these households. Half of all American households headed by a woman are renters. In contrast, 71 percent of all male-headed households are owners. In New Mexico, the proportion of households that own their houses is higher than the national average. Nonetheless, male heads of households outnumber female heads in home ownership. Seventy-two percent of male-headed households own their homes compared to 60 percent of female-headed households.

What are the implications of these trends? There is growing evidence that single-parent families can be attributed to the increase of premarital relationships among young women and the marital dissolution of families over successive generations. Women who spend most of their childhood in single-parent families are more likely to marry and bear children early. They are also more likely to have their own marriages break up. Studies have also shown that the female-headed family is an

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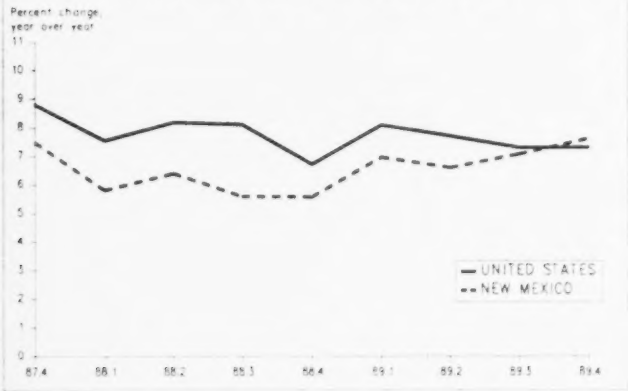
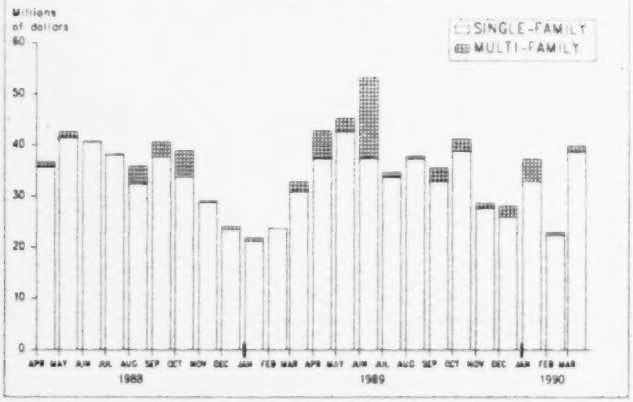
ECONOMIC TRENDS IN NEW MEXICO

TOTAL PERSONAL INCOME UNITED STATES AND NEW MEXICO

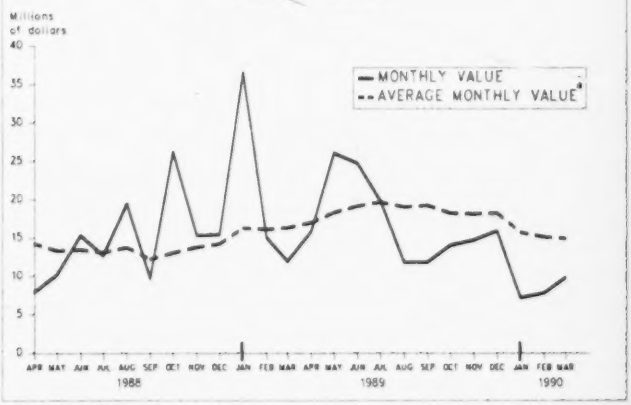


NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT UNITED STATES AND NEW MEXICO

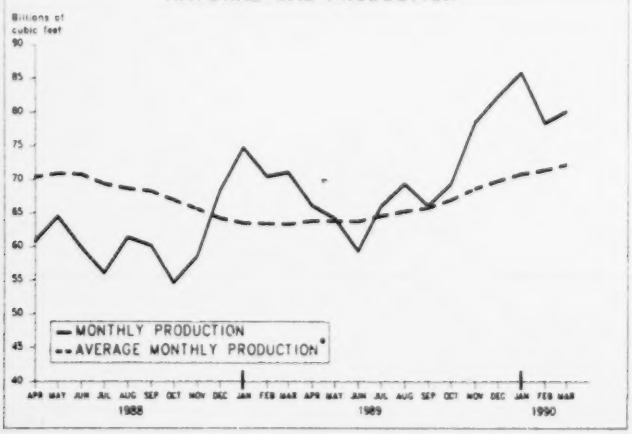
RESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS, DOLLAR VALUE



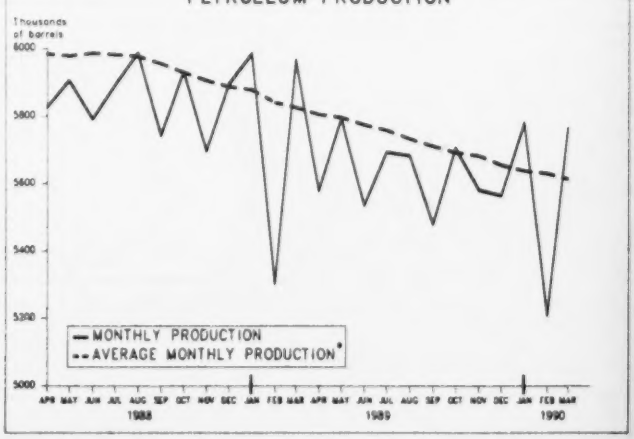
NONRESIDENTIAL BUILDING PERMITS, DOLLAR VALUE



NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION



PETROLEUM PRODUCTION



*** 12 month moving average. For example, the point for August, 1988 represents an average of data from September, 1987 through August, 1988.**

U.S. ECONOMIC INDICATORS

	CURRENT MO/QTR	CURRENT DATA	% CHANGE YEAR AGO	PREVIOUS MO/ QTR DATA
Consumer price index				
All urban consumers (1982-84=100)				
All items	Mar 90	128.7	5.2	128.0
Food and beverages	Mar 90	131.2	6.4	130.9
Housing	Mar 90	126.8	4.4	126.1
Apparel and upkeep	Mar 90	125.4	5.1	120.4
Transportation	Mar 90	116.8	4.4	117.1
Medical care	Mar 90	158.7	8.6	157.5
Entertainment	Mar 90	130.9	5.0	130.4
Other goods and services	Mar 90	155.2	7.5	154.7
Revised series, wage earners and clerical workers (1982-84=100)				
All items	Mar 90	127.1	5.2	126.4
Gross national product* ($Bil. constant)	Q1 90	4195.8	2.2	4174.1
Prime interest rate** (% per annum)	Mar 90	10.0	-13.0	10.0
Mortgage interest rate*** (% per annum)	Mar 90	10.0	0.4	9.9
3 month treasury bill# (% per annum)	Mar 90	7.9	-10.9	7.8
Industrial production## (1987=100)	Mar 90	108.8	1.0	108.1
Manufacturers new orders## ($Bil.)	Feb 90	231.6	0.1	227.6

NEW MEXICO AND U.S. COMPARISONS

		NEW MEXICO			UNITED STATES		
	CURRENT MO/QTR	CURRENT MO/QTR DATA	% CHANGE YEAR AGO	PREVIOUS MO/QTR DATA	CURRENT MO/QTR DATA	% CHANGE YEAR AGO	PREVIOUS MO/QTR DATA
Employment (000)	Mar 90	654.4	2.2	651.7	117,093	1.1	116,308
Unemployment rate (%)	Mar 90	6.5	-	6.2	5.4	-	5.8
Nonagricultural employment (000)	Mar 90	565.6	1.9	561.7	109,479	2.3	108,878
Personal income### ($Mil.)	Q4 89	20,789	7.6	20,202	4,470,967	7.3	4,381,863
Housing units permitted							
Single	Mar 90	514	27.9	283	82,999	-1.3	58,853
Multi	Mar 90	36	-10.0	17	26,457	-17.2	20,659

Note: Selected data items subject to revision.
N Not available.
* 1982 dollars at seasonally adjusted annual rates.
** Closing rate for month.
*** Effective rate (in the primary market) on conventional mortgages, reflecting fees and charges as well as contract rate and assumed, on the average, repayment at end of 10 years.
# Rate on new issues within period; bank discount basis.
Monthly data seasonally adjusted.
Quarterly data seasonally adjusted at annual rates.
Sources: U. S. Department of Labor, News: CPI data;
New Mexico Department of Labor and U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics: employment and unemployment data.
U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis: income data;
U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census: construction data.
U. S. Council of Economic Advisors, Economic Indicators: all other data.

NEW MEXICO ECONOMIC INDICATORS

	CURRENT MO/QTR	CURRENT DATA	% CHANGE YEAR AGO	PREVIOUS MO/QTR DATA	% CHANGE# 12 MONTH AVERAGES
1. GENERAL					
Civilian labor force* (000)	Mar 90	700.0	1.2	694.6	1.4
Total employment* (000)	Mar 90	654.4	2.2	651.7	2.6
Unemployment* (000)	Mar 90	45.6	-11.1	42.9	-13.5
Unemployment rate (%)	Mar 90	6.5	-	6.2	-
Weekly new unemployment insurance claims	Mar 90	1052.0	-5.2	1526.0	-8.5
Nonagricultural wage/salary employment**(000)	Mar 90	565.6	1.9	561.7	2.3
Personal income*** ($ mil.)	Q4 89	20789.0	7.6	20202.0	7.1
New business incorporations	Mar 90	286.0	10.4	235.0	8.1
Business failure liabilities ($ 000)	Dec 89	1642.0	137.3	4004.0	-61.1
2. AGRICULTURAL RECEIPTS					
Livestock and products ($ mil.)	Jan 90	68.3	4.6	50.5	1.6
Crops ($ mil.)	Jan 90	26.8	12.1	35.4	12.7
Total ($ mil.)	Jan 90	95.1	6.5	85.9	4.8
3. MINING					
Employment** (000)	Mar 90	14.6	5.0	14.5	-0.7
Average hourly earnings ($)	Mar 90	12.28	4.8	12.35	3.2
Petroleum production (000 bbls.)	Mar 90	5765.7	-3.4	5210.6	-3.6
Natural gas production (bil. cu. ft.)	Mar 90	80.1	12.7	78.4	13.8
Coal production (000 short tons)	Mar 90	2637.0	27.3	2300.0	15.0
Oil well completions&	Mar 90	32.0	-30.4	56.0	-1.3
Gas well completions&	Mar 90	63.0	-22.2	66.0	22.3
Total footage drilled&& (000)	Mar 90	417.9	-21.5	474.2	-3.4
Oil sales ($ mil.)	Dec 89	96.3	28.9	97.7	17.8
Gas sales ($ mil.)	Dec 89	133.7	68.2	111.9	4.6
4. CONSTRUCTION					
Employment** (000)	Mar 90	27.8	-6.1	27.0	-1.9
Average hourly earnings ($)	Mar 90	11.54	3.0	11.97	3.0
Residential units permitted	Mar 90	550.0	24.4	300.0	12.5
Residential building permits ($ mil.)	Mar 90	39.8	21.7	22.8	10.3
Nonresidential building permits ($ mil.)	Mar 90	9.8	-17.6	7.8	-8.3
Residential construction contracts ($ mil.)	Mar 90	38.3	-8.2	28.6	-9.0
Nonresidential construction contracts ($mil.)	Mar 90	49.7	13.7	15.3	-17.7
Nonbuilding construction contracts ($ mil.)	Mar 90	10.9	-51.6	10.4	-30.9
5. TRANSPORTATION/COMMUNICATION/UTILITIES					
Employment** (000)	Mar 90	28.7	-1.0	28.9	0.0
Communications average hourly earnings ($)	Mar 90	14.36	4.8	14.15	1.3
Utilities average hourly earnings## ($)	Mar 90	14.38	-4.8	14.67	1.8
6. MANUFACTURING					
Employment** (000)	Mar 90	42.2	2.7	42.1	3.4
Average hourly earnings ($)	Mar 90	8.86	2.3	8.97	-1.5
Electric & electronic equipment employment** (000)	Mar 90	5.7	-1.7	5.6	3.6
Transportation equipment employment** (000)	Mar 90	5.4	0.0	5.4	0.0
Food & kindred products employment** (000)	Mar 90	4.3	16.2	4.3	10.0
Textile & apparel employment** (000)	Mar 90	2.7	0.0	2.7	0.0
Lumber & wood products employment** (000)	Mar 90	2.5	4.2	2.5	0.0

NEW MEXICO ECONOMIC INDICATORS (continued)

	CURRENT MO/QTR	CURRENT DATA	% CHANGE YEAR AGO	PREVIOUS MO/QTR DATA	% CHANGE# 12 MONTH AVERAGES
7. TRADE					
Wholesale employment** (000)	Mar 90	24.4	2.1	24.3	2.5
Retail employment** (000)	Mar 90	108.5	1.3	107.5	2.7
Average hourly earnings ($)	Mar 90	6.94	2.7	7.07	4.6
8. FINANCE/INSURANCE/REAL ESTATE					
Employment** (000)	Mar 90	26.6	2.3	26.6	0.4
Bank average hourly earnings ($)	Mar 90	6.58	1.2	6.71	6.3
Bank total assets ($ mil.)	Q4 89	10727.0	5.5	10418.0	5.0
Bank total deposits ($ mil.)	Q4 89	8977.0	3.9	8693.0	3.3
Bank net loans ($ mil.)	Q4 89	5813.0	1.1	5789.0	1.6
S & L total assets ($ mil.)	Oct 89	5068.0	-8.9	5172.0	-9.9
S & L total deposits ($ mil.)	Oct 89	4446.0	-5.2	4508.0	-4.1
S & L new mortgage loans closed&&& ($ mil.)	Oct 89	59.0	-25.3	50.0	-25.0
9. SERVICES AND TOURISM					
Total service employment** (000)	Mar 90	140.8	2.4	139.6	3.3
Lodging employment** (000)	Mar 90	11.2	-0.9	11.0	1.7
Eating & drinking places employment** (000)	Mar 90	40.8	2.8	40.0	3.5
Visits to state parks (000)	Mar 90	287.0	-20.0	134.2	-9.2
Visits to national parks/monuments (000)	Mar 90	184.9	-9.8	88.4	3.1
Passenger traffic at Albuquerque airport@ (000)	Mar 90	416.4	4.6	352.1	9.0
Lodgers tax receipts ($ 000)	Q4 89	3078.8	21.3	3533.5	17.6
Lodging occupancy rates (%)	Mar 90	68.4	4.1	56.9	4.4
10. GOVERNMENT					
Total government employment** (000)	Mar 90	152.0	3.5	151.2	2.5
Federal employment** (000)	Mar 90	31.3	0.6	31.2	1.9
State employment** @@ (000)	Mar 90	54.6	5.8	54.3	3.9
Local employment** (000)	Mar 90	66.1	3.0	65.7	1.8
Total general fund revenues@@@ ($ mil.)	Mar 90	135.9	8.1	122.8	4.7

Note: selected data items subject to revision.
N Not available.
* Number of persons by place of residence.
** Number of jobs by place of work.
*** Quarterly data seasonally adjusted at annual rates.
& These include wells that are in the following categories: new drillings, deepened, plugged back, reentry and additional zone.
&& Oil and gas combined.
&&& New mortgage loans closed equals the previously carried item "Total loans closed" plus a relatively insignificant additional loan category.
# For example, in the report that contained June 1985 figures this would be the percent change in the average of July 1983 to June 1984 data versus the average of July 1984 to June 1985 data.
Does not include transportation.
@ Passenger traffic includes enplanements and deplanements.
@@ This figure includes full and part time employment at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). Full time equivalent employment (FTE) at LANL is 7,700 as of April 1989 according to LANL Personnel Dept.
@@@ Includes recurring and non-recurring revenues.

Sources: New Mexico Department of Labor: Sections 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10;
Dun and Bradstreet, Inc.: Section 1;
U. S. Dept of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis: Section 1;
USDA Statistical Reporting Service: Section 2;
New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Dept., Oil and Gas Conservation Division: Section 3;
New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Dept., Oil and Gas Accounting Division: Section 3;
U. S. Dept. of Energy, Energy Information Administration: Section 3;
U. S. Dept. of Commerce, Bureau of the Census: Section 4;
F. W. Dodge Company (a division of McGraw Hill, Inc.): Section 4;
U. S. Federal Reserve: Section 8;
Federal Home Loan Bank of Dallas: Section 8;
U. S. Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation: Section 8;
New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Dept., Park and Recreation Division: Section 9;
U. S. National Park Service: Section 9;
City of Albuquerque, Albuquerque International Airport: Section 9;
New Mexico Dept. of Finance and Administration, Local Government Division: Section 9;
Pannell, Kerr and Forster: Section 9;
New Mexico Dept. of Finance and Administration: Section 10.

CITIES, COUNTIES AND FEATURES

GROSS RECEIPTS# FROM RETAIL TRADE
TOP 20 CITIES
($000)

	CURRENT 3 MONTH AVERAGE* JAN-MAR	% CHANGE AVERAGE YEAR AGO	PREVIOUS 3 MONTH AVERAGE* OCT-DEC
Alamogordo	$ 14,684	0.9	$ 14,876
Albuquerque	263,034	8.9	265,904
Artesia	6,003	19.8	5,280
Carlsbad	14,435	15.9	12,716
Clovis	17,626	2.4	17,538
Deming	6,297	4.4	5,810
Espanola	6,797	6.8	7,114
Farmington	35,938	16.1	32,409
Gallup	23,973	4.2	23,734
Hobbs	17,794	8.9	16,078
Las Cruces	41,325	8.8	37,957
Las Vegas	6,843	17.2	6,093
Los Alamos	7,359	23.4	7,627
Portales	5,227	5.1	5,086
Rio Rancho	6,795	20.9	5,675
Roswell	22,912	15.9	21,340
Ruidoso	6,105	11.7	5,449
Santa Fe	59,690	13.4	62,860
Silver City	8,856	8.1	8,872
Taos	9,228	17.6	9,349
State total	739,078	9.8	733,523

\# Gross receipts reported are for gross receipts tax purposes, which do not include all the receipts of all firms.
* Averages are used to smooth out fluctuations in the data, which are not caused by changes in economic conditions.

Source: New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department.

NEW MEXICO CONSTRUCTION@
SELECTED CITIES

	NUMBER OF BUILDING UNITS OR PERMITS *				VALUE OF BUILDING PERMITS ($000)			
	MARCH 1990	MARCH 1989	CUMULATIVE TOTAL THROUGH MARCH 1990	CUMULATIVE TOTAL THROUGH MARCH 1989	MARCH 1990	MARCH 1989	CUMULATIVE TOTAL THROUGH MARCH 1990	CUMULATIVE TOTAL THROUGH MARCH 1989
NEW RESIDENTIAL**								
Alamogordo	5	10	10	16	$ 357	$ 662	$ 750	$ 1,022
Albuquerque, Total	186	118	344	326	13,252	9,501	27,208	24,892
Single Family	166	114	324	322	12,674	9,396	26,630	24,787
Multi Family	20	4	20	4	578	106	578	106
Carlsbad	2	4	6	5	142	266	356	360
Clovis	30	20	71	31	1,968	1,086	9,996	1,788
Farmington	5	3	9	4	289	156	561	222
Hobbs	0	1	0	2	0	67	0	183
Las Cruces	37	32	84	93	1,995	2,162	5,509	6,484
Los Alamos	3	2	5	3	378	135	639	415
Rio Rancho	15	107	64	238	654	5,375	3,411	11,572
Roswell	8	5	12	18	628	327	931	1,264
Ruidoso	5	5	11	13	438	323	998	810
Santa Fe	22	42	76	73	2,287	3,333	7,767	7,193
NEW NONRESIDENTIAL								
Alamogordo	9	3	12	13	357	164	702	350
Albuquerque	2	5	6	7	1,174	4,607	18,108	35,827
Carlsbad	8	5	17	13	593	43	620	225
Clovis	2	1	5	3	100	259	428	391
Farmington	1	0	3	0	140	0	193	0
Hobbs	1	2	5	3	17	56	809	182
Las Cruces	10	11	31	28	631	390	1,175	928
Los Alamos	1	1	2	2	1	25	81	45
Rio Rancho	1	1	1	3	200	330	200	576
Roswell	6	9	15	23	488	30	525	936
Ruidoso	0	1	2	2	0	454	132	481
Santa Fe	2	7	16	14	61	618	971	2,854

Note: Top twelve cities chosen on basis of residential construction activity during the period 1982 through 1984.
@ Data refer only to permits authorized for private construction projects. Public buildings and projects are excluded.
* Residential data shows the number of permitted units, while nonresidential data shows the number of permits.
** Residential data includes both single and multi-family units. In the case of Albuquerque, single and multi-family units are also shown separately.

Sources: U. S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census: all cities, except for Rio Rancho;
City of Rio Rancho: Rio Rancho only.

CITIES, COUNTIES AND FEATURES (continued)

ESTIMATED CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT
(000)

	NEW MEXICO			ALBUQUERQUE MSA*			LAS CRUCES MSA**			SANTA FE MSA***		
	MARCHp	% CHANGE YEAR AGO	FEB. r	MARCHp	% CHANGE YEAR AGO	FEB. r	MARCHp	% CHANGE YEAR AGO	FEB. r	MARCHp	% CHANGE YEAR AGO	FEB. r
TOTAL CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	700.0	1.2	694.6	262.5	-1.0	261.2	58.8	4.1	57.9	66.6	1.5	66.1
Employment@	654.4	2.2	651.7	249.2	-0.6	248.9	54.5	4.2	53.9	64.6	3.7	64.1
Unemployment	45.6	-11.1	42.9	13.3	-8.3	12.3	4.3	2.4	4.0	2.0	-39.4	2.0
Unemployment rate (%)	6.5	-	6.2	5.1	-	4.7	7.3	-	6.9	3.0	-	3.0
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	565.6	1.9	561.7	242.4	0.9	240.8	44.4	4.0	44.1	57.3	3.4	57.0
Mining	14.6	5.0	14.5	0.1	-50.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1
Contract construction	27.8	-6.1	27.0	12.6	-6.0	12.4	2.4	0.0	2.2	2.5	-3.8	2.5
Manufacturing	42.2	2.7	42.1	21.0	0.5	20.9	3.6	2.9	3.5	1.8	5.9	1.8
Durable goods	28.5	1.1	28.4	15.1	0.7	15.0	1.7	6.3	1.6	1.2	9.1	1.2
Nondurable goods	13.7	6.2	13.7	5.9	0.0	5.9	1.9	0.0	1.9	0.6	0.0	0.6
Transportation & public utilities	28.7	-1.0	28.9	12.6	0.0	12.6	1.6	0.0	1.6	0.9	-10.0	1.0
Trade	132.9	1.5	131.8	60.2	0.0	59.7	9.0	1.1	9.1	10.7	1.9	10.5
Wholesale	24.4	2.1	24.3	14.5	0.7	14.5	1.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	11.1	1.0
Retail	108.5	1.3	107.5	45.7	-0.2	45.2	8.1	2.5	8.1	9.8	2.1	9.6
Finance, insurance, & real estate	26.6	2.3	26.6	14.2	0.0	14.2	1.7	0.0	1.7	2.1	0.0	2.1
Services	140.8	2.4	139.6	71.5	2.0	71.1	7.9	5.3	7.8	15.4	4.1	15.2
Government	152.0	3.5	151.2	50.2	3.3	49.8	18.2	5.8	18.2	24.0	5.3	24.0
Federal	31.3	0.6	31.2	13.8	0.0	13.7	4.3	2.4	4.3	1.7	0.0	1.7
State	54.6	5.8	54.3	14.1	6.0	14.0	7.9	9.7	7.8	17.8	6.0	17.9
Local	66.1	3.0	65.7	22.3	3.7	22.1	6.0	3.4	6.1	4.5	4.7	4.4

N Not available, less than 50 jobs.
P Preliminary.
R Revised.

* Bernalillo County.
** Dona Ana County.
*** Santa Fe and Los Alamos Counties.
@ Includes labor disputes.

Source: New Mexico Department of Labor.

Per Capita Personal Income

	1987	1988	% Change
Albuquerque MSA *	$14,373	$15,019	4.5
Las Cruces MSA **	9,567	9,791	2.3
Santa Fe MSA ***	15,452	16,202	4.9
Bernalillo	$14,373	$15,019	4.5
Catron	10,482	10,973	4.7
Chaves	11,600	12,620	8.8
Cibola	8,492	8,881	4.6
Colfax	11,622	12,603	8.4
Curry	11,856	12,153	2.5
De Baca	11,173	12,465	11.6
Dona Ana	9,567	9,791	2.3
Eddy	$11,263	$12,121	7.6
Grant	11,108	11,840	6.6
Guadalupe	8,093	8,809	8.8
Harding	11,911	12,612	5.9
Hidalgo	11,261	11,722	4.1
Lea	11,338	12,195	7.6
Lincoln	10,933	12,101	10.7
Los Alamos	21,487	22,614	5.2
Luna	$ 8,782	$ 9,333	6.3
McKinley	7,267	7,470	2.8
Mora	7,277	7,543	3.7
Otero	11,012	11,538	4.8
Quay	10,987	11,629	5.8
Rio Arriba	8,157	8,542	4.7
Roosevelt	10,715	10,631	-0.8
Sandoval	10,765	11,372	5.6
San Juan	$ 9,801	$10,523	7.4
San Miguel	8,114	8,495	4.7
Santa Fe	14,183	14,891	5.0
Sierra	10,736	11,395	6.1
Socorro	8,924	9,348	4.8
Taos	8,658	9,092	5.0
Torrance	8,801	9,210	4.6
Union	13,412	15,334	14.3
Valencia	11,191	11,941	6.7
New Mexico	$11,891	$12,493	5.1

* Bernalillo County.
** Dona Ana County.
*** Santa Fe and Los Alamos counties.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, unpublished data, April 1990.

Feminization . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

important link in the intergenerational transfer of poverty and dependence. Children of single mothers are more likely to drop out of school and more likely to have low earnings as adults.

In the face of high divorce rates and the increasing incidence of births to single women, future trends will reflect an increase in single-headed households and a corresponding increase in households below poverty level. For New Mexico, this will have direct bearing on the amount of social services that will have to be made available so as to balance such inequity. In addition, employees may have to reconsider the types of benefits they offer their female employees, especially in areas pertaining to childcare. The reformation of the household need not be disruptive as long as the State acknowledges these trends and makes long range provisions to deal with these demographic shifts.

Adelamar N. Alcantara
Demographer

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